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The Case of a TETANOS and LOCKED JAW, cured by amazing quantities of Opium, by Doctor ARCHIBALD GLOSTER, of St. John's, Antigua; communicated to JOHN MORGAN, M. D. F. R. S. Professor of Physick, in the College of Philadelphia; and by him laid before the American Philosophical Society.

A NEGRO, aged forty years, having suffered the excessive heat of the sun in the day, imprudently laid himself down and slept on the damp Earth in the night. The next morning, he perceived a stiffness in the muscles of his jaws, with a somewhat, painful or rather uneasy sensation in those of the neck; having no other complaint at the time, he was blooded, and had an emollient liniment for the parts affected, and was ordered a lenient purge, *ex Mann. & Sal. Glaub.* This operated immediately.

THE day following the pains in his jaws increased, the muscles of his back and neck were frequently seized with violent spasms, which proceeded to the muscles of his thighs and legs, rendering them quite rigid.

HE could scarcely refrain from crying out at these times, and could not, but with difficulty, open his teeth, so far as to admit a knife between. Luckily for him his under jaw projected naturally beyond the upper jaw, so that his food passed between his teeth, and he had no great difficulty in swallowing liquids. His pulse was slow and small, and his skin was below the natural heat: He had no sleep, for so soon as he dozed, severe spasms would rouse him.

HAVING observed in the London Medical Essays, that these complaints had been successfully treated with free exhibitions of opium, and having before this obstinate case came under my observation relieved patients by very liberal doses of it, I thought nothing in the Materia Medica would be so likely to yield relief in this case. I therefore prescribed on the evening of the second day as follows, viz.

*June 7th. R. Pulv. Contrayerv. Compt: 3 iss. Nitre: pur;
Campb: Opic pur: ana 3 ss MD in P Æ sex.
Cap: unam 3tia quaque horâ.*

8th. HE

8th. HE was no better, his stiffness continued with frequent spasms severe and painful. The powders were repeated with $\mathfrak{z}\text{ij}$ of opium.

9th. HE had no sleep, no disturbance in his mind, nor the least affection of the Sensorium Commune which could be attributed to the opium. His powders were repeated as yesterday; he took liquid food, such as weak broths, gruels and ptisans. A general bath was ordered, in which he was put stiff as a stake, and the spine with all the rigid parts were well rubbed after the use of it, with a liniment,

*ex Camph. ʒi. solut: in Ol: Oliv: ʒvj.
Tenet: Tebaic: ʒiij. M:*

10th. THE powders were repeated with $\mathfrak{z}\text{i}$ of opium to be given every two hours as usual.

A PARTICULAR bath likewise, consisting of emollient and discutient herbs, was directed for the muscles of his jaws and neck, which were most severely convulsed; indeed the Masseter muscles were to the touch like wood.

11th. THE patient was no better: I began to despair of him: Emollient clysters were thrown up morning and evening, he being very costive, as well from the use of the opium, as from the effects of the disease. His mind was clear and undisturbed, he had no sleep, nor even drowsiness; nor did there appear any of the usual effects of opium given in much smaller quantities. However I knew that nothing but opium could answer our purpose, and tho' I had gone as great lengths with it as any one in these parts would venture, yet I not only persisted in its use, but increased its quantity to $\mathfrak{z}\text{ijss}$. in six powders, using less nitre and camphor.

12th. HAVING taken the last six powders, he thought his spasms recurred less frequently. Yet there was no relaxation of the muscles of the jaws, nor any other favourable alteration. His clysters were repeated, the baths and liniment continued, and his powders were again ordered.

13th.

13th. EVERY thing continued the same. He had no sleep, nor any relaxation of the muscles. His discharges by the clysters were hard dry scybals; his mind was still calm, and not a function of it impaired, or in the least altered. He was wakeful in the day as usual, and in the evening had an inclination to rest, but continued to be disturbed by these dreadful spasms.

STILL between hopes and despair I ordered six powders with *two drachms of opium*, which was twenty grains of pure solid opium in each dose, to be given every three hours.

14th. HAVING taken all these, he was rather easier, his spasms were less frequent, yet no perceptible relaxation of the muscles of his lower jaw followed. His diet was continued as above. His clyster produced the same discharges as before. He was easier always after the general bath, and the rubbing in of the liniment, all which were continued, and as I had ventured as far with opium as I thought it prudent, I ordered as follows :

℞ Pul. Contray. Comp.	{	<i>ana 3jss.</i>
Cinnab. Antim.		
Opii pur.		
Mosch. Chinens.	3ss to be divided into six parts, and one to be given every three hours.	

15th. HE said he was easier, had a very little sleep; his spasms were less frequent, and he was in better spirits. This encouraged me to hope for a relaxation of these cruel spasms, which have been fatal to so many. I therefore boldly returned to the former dose of *Opium*, and gave 3 *ij* in the powders with the musk and cinnabar.

16th. THE patient found himself much the same as yesterday. His baths, liniments, clysters, frictions and powders were repeated.

17th. HE found himself much easier to day, his powders were repeated, and his spasms were much relaxed every where, except in his right leg which was very painful. The masseters gave way a very little, scarcely perceptible.

18th. HE was much the same as yesterday, having gained however a little ground. The same means were continued, and his powders repeated.

19th. HE was rather better, and more free from pain; he could sit up; the muscles of the back part of the body were so far relaxed as to admit of that posture, without much pain. He moved his lower jaw from side to side with some ease. The same powders, &c. were continued.

20th. HE could open his mouth so far as to admit my little finger into it, but this was done with a horrid grin, and I was afraid the spasm would return with the effort, which is very common. The medicines were repeated.

21st. HE was much in the same condition; still had spasms at greater distances, had some sleep, and said he could eat, but I was unwilling to hazard the experiment. His liquid food was continued, his medicines were repeated, and every thing observed with the same care as before.

22^d. HE continued to mend; has had some sleep; the masseters were relaxed still more; the spasm recurred less frequently. He complained of lowness of spirits, and was desirous of tobacco to smoak, which was allowed. He had a mixture of four spoonfuls of old rum in a pint of warm water. His powders were ordered as before with ʒj of opium, and the usual quantity of musk, to be given every four hours only.

23^d. HE was much better, had some sleep, opened his mouth, could chew, and still enjoyed a calm undisturbed mind. His powders were repeated with ʒjj of opium which makes fifteen hundred grains of solid opium taken in seventeen days.

24th. HE had better rest last night and more sleep than during his illness before. He eat a bit of lamb, could open his mouth no farther than yesterday, but his spasms recurred less frequently. His powders with ʒjj of opium were ordered as before

25th. HE was much better in all respects ; he slept pretty well last night, and could move his legs and arms very freely. There was still a spasm on his masseter muscles, as he could not freely open his mouth. Nothing was ordered but a continuance of his baths, liniments, clysters, frictions. The powders ordered for him yesterday not being yet expended.

26th. HE continued to mend, although he had not taken above 20 grains of opium the two preceeding days. There was no alteration in his spirits. The spasms were more relaxed. From this time he was visited less frequently, his medicines given more irregularly, but as he had spasms which recurred now and then till the 15th of July, he had his bath continued, and took about 3 jjs of musk, and 96 grains of opium in that space.

July 20th. HE is now perfectly well, in good spirits, and finds no inconvenience from his preceeding sickness, nor any mischief from the amazing quantity of opium he has swallowed down. It is to be noted that from the 16th he was put upon a course of nervous pills ex G. Assafoetid. and Cinnamon of Antimony without any opium.

LEST any person should imagine the opium which was made use of in this case, might not be good, I think proper to add that it was fresh, and appeared to be very good, being procured from Messrs. Bevan, Druggists in London ; and that it always answered to the usual effects of Opium in the common doses, in every other instance, having made sufficient use of it in my practice, to be certain of its quality.

An Account of the Effects of the STRAMMONIUM or Thorn-Apple.

By BENJAMIN RUSH, M. D. Professor of Chemistry, in the College of Philadelphia.

I WAS called to a child, (between three and four years old,) a few days ago, which appeared to be ill with a violent fever, delirium, tremors in her limbs, and a general eruption